

to realize their full potential. Once the overall program is established, it has the potential to spur \$5 billion in economic development across thousands of acres in low- to middle-income communities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Congress to pass this legislation, launch this study, and bring this transit corridor one step closer to reality.

CELEBRATING THE LIVES OF FOUR GREAT
GEORGIANS

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the lives of four great Georgians important to Georgia's Fifth Congressional District and to greater metro Atlanta who have recently passed away.

Mrs. Celestine Bray Bottoms was a pillar of the greater Atlanta community. As a longtime educator with the Atlanta Public Schools system, Mrs. Bottoms touched the lives of thousands of students, parents, and fellow educators throughout Atlanta.

Celestine Bray Bottoms was a graduate of Atlanta's illustrious HBCU Spelman College, was the mother of Derrick and Darian Bottoms, the mother-in-law to Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, a beloved grandmother, a community activist, and a friend to many.

Today, District Five honors the life of Mrs. Celestine Bray Bottoms.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph Arrington, Sr., was a third-generation native of Atlanta, a graduate of the historic Booker T. Washington High School, and a graduate of Atlanta's Morehouse College.

Attorney Arrington obtained his law degree from North Carolina Central University and a master's degree in public health from the University of Pittsburgh.

A member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and president of Morehouse College National Alumni Association, Joseph Arrington, Sr., will forever be remembered as a man of honor.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Jane Smith was a beloved third-generation Atlantan. She attended Charles Harper High School in Atlanta, Georgia, where she held the distinction as the school's very first homecoming queen.

Dr. Smith's commitment to bettering the lives of fellow Atlantans was unmatched.

Dr. Jane Smith and the Smith and Browning families are some of the original native families that have strengthened and elevated Black communities in greater metro Atlanta and beyond.

An unmatched beauty on the inside and out, Dr. Smith will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, last and certainly not least, we remember Dilcie Sledge Ragsdale, who passed away 1 week ago today.

Ms. Dilcie hailed from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and was a graduate of Spelman and Atlanta University.

As a lifelong educator, she dedicated her life to teaching and enriching the

lives of others. She lived a full life. She was a gardener, an enthusiastic cook, and a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

She is survived by her children, Valerie and Renard.

I know I speak for the Fifth District of Georgia when I say she will be dearly missed.

May the memories of all these departed souls be a blessing.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 20 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DEMINGS) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Lord of all creation, thank You for giving us another day.

The coronavirus continues to threaten the lives and health of our American people, and jeopardize the health and well-being of healthcare providers every day. The healthcare community rushes to vaccinate, and scientists strive still to provide solutions to this plague. Bless us all, O Lord, have mercy.

Continue to strengthen the resolve of legislators here in the Capitol in their efforts to provide an economic relief bill and funding the government into the next administration. May their better angels prevail over the political tensions that have been so powerful during this difficult year.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. OLSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. OLSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING ROSE OCHI

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a dear mentor, an honorable public servant, and a stalwart leader in the Japanese-American community, Rose Ochi.

Rose was one of my mentors when I was in my twenties and thirties. Her guidance and her wisdom helped me during those formative years. I know that I was not the only person whose life she touched. She blazed a trail for many others in our community besides me.

Rose was a justice seeker and served as an Associate Attorney General of the United States under President Clinton, as the criminal justice planning director for Mayor Tom Bradley, and as a fighter for redress for the Japanese-American community who suffered through internment. Her work contributed to making America a more perfect Union.

Madam Speaker, we will miss Rose's towering presence and grace, but her legacy will live on.

DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS-22
VOLLEYBALL TEAMS

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to do something Texans love to do: to brag about my home State. I am going to brag about two Texas-22 volleyball teams that made the Texas finals this past weekend.

The Fulshear Chargers have played 4 short years of high school volleyball. It took them only 3 years to win the State title in class 4-A. That was last year. This year, they moved up to class 5-A. A downgrade? No. They went to the 5-A State finals, losing to undefeated Lovejoy.

In 6-A, the Seven Lakes Spartans were amazing. Despite having half the team down with COVID and not being able to practice for 2½ weeks, they won the 6-A championship, the first team ever in the 101-year history of the Katy Independent School District to win the State title.

Madam Speaker, 1 million neighbors in Texas-22 and Santa Clause congratulate and are darn proud of our Spartans and our Chargers. They have proved once and for all: Don't mess with Texas-22 volleyball teams.

Ho, ho, ho.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TAYLOR DeROSA

(Mr. LEVIN of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of my young constituent, Taylor DeRosa.

Taylor made her mark as a student activist at Royal Oak High School. She was beginning her college career at Grand Valley State University when her life was taken so tragically several days ago.

I met Taylor when I was running for Congress in 2018 and she was launching a Students Demand Action chapter. Taylor immediately struck me as a huge flash of sunshine in an unjust world. Her commitment to justice was frank and undeniable. You knew the world would change at least a little because Taylor was present, fighting for sensible gun reform, fighting for everyone to see and cherish Black lives, and fighting to empower women and girls.

Taylor made me feel that every minute we invest in our young people is time well-spent. I feel that now, even as we struggle to cope with her loss, because she inspired me and so many folks young and old all around her.

My heart goes out to Taylor's devoted mother, Cara, and all who knew and loved her in this time of heartbreak and mourning.

CONGRATULATING DR. GLENN DeIBERT

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Glenn Deibert, who will be retiring as Coastal Pines Technical College's president at the end of February.

Dr. Deibert has served 27 years in higher education and has served four of Georgia's technical colleges, including Okefenokee Technical College, Coastal Pines Technical College, Southwest Georgia Technical College, and Southern Technical College, formerly known as Swainsboro Technical College.

Because of his dedication to improving education and the lives of students, he was recently named one of the Top 100 Most Influential Georgians by Georgia Trend's yearly publication. This title recognizes some of the most prestigious folks who have contributed greatly to the State's success.

Dr. Deibert attended Central High School in Thomasville, Georgia, and graduated from Thomas Area Technical School, which later became Southwest Georgia Technical College, so his appreciation for technical colleges is personal.

Dr. Deibert's work to improve Coastal Pines contributed to record enrollment at the college for multiple years.

Madam Speaker, I wish him and his family the best of luck as he begins his

retirement, and I am thankful for his many years of dedication to improving higher education in Georgia's First Congressional District.

SUPPORTING EVICTION RELIEF IN COVID PACKAGE

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise in support today of eviction relief, which we expect to see included in the COVID package we vote on soon.

While we need to do more, this bill provides a meaningful start to addressing the eviction crisis caused by the pandemic. In Pennsylvania alone, nearly one-quarter million households are behind on their rent and facing the real threat of eviction.

This bill will allow, as an authorized administrative expense, funds to be sent to civil legal aid organizations to help keep people in their homes. Under this crucial legislation, legal aid organizations, including faith-based groups, can represent tenants in eviction cases, improve access to utilities, and ensure housing conditions meet necessary standards.

Rental assistance alone will not help the thousands of people facing eviction; families often need access to legal advice to protect their rights. Legal counsel should not be a privilege saved for the wealthiest in our country. It is a basic necessity for navigating the difficult problems facing Americans who are on the bottom rungs of our economy.

I will continue advocating for the families hardest hit by the COVID pandemic, and I thank my colleagues for their hard work on this legislation.

ROCKBRIDGE CHRISTMAS BASKETS

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rockbridge Christmas Baskets program.

Originally founded as the Santa Clause Truck, the Rockbridge Christmas Baskets program has been a blessing to the Shenandoah Valley since 1948.

This tremendous, all-volunteer organization assembles and delivers thousands of food and toy care packages to struggling families each year.

While the coronavirus may have put a damper on the holiday season for some, it was no match for the generosity and spirit of the folks at the Rockbridge Christmas Baskets program. Moving their packing day to a larger facility and spreading it out over packing week to ensure the health of those involved, the organization will donate a record 68,000 pounds of food and 1,300 toys to families throughout

Lexington, Rockbridge, and Buena Vista this year.

Having worked side by side with this incredible group many times, along with my family, I can tell you it is the overwhelming community effort that makes it such a success—plus the doughnut holes they serve.

Folks coming together from all walks of life to help their neighbors in need truly embodies the spirit of the holiday season, and I thank the Rockbridge Christmas Baskets program for their continued efforts to bring cheer to so many in our area.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

SAFEGUARDING TOMORROW THROUGH ONGOING RISK MITIGATION ACT

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3418) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to allow the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide capitalization grants to States to establish revolving funds to provide hazard mitigation assistance to reduce risks from disasters and natural hazards, and other related environmental harm.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3418

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act" or the "STORM Act".

SEC. 2. GRANTS TO ENTITIES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HAZARD MITIGATION REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS.

Title II of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 205. GRANTS TO ENTITIES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HAZARD MITIGATION REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS.

"(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may enter into agreements with eligible entities to make capitalization grants to such entities for the establishment of hazard mitigation revolving loan funds (referred to in this section as 'entity loan funds') for providing funding assistance to local governments to carry out eligible projects under this section to reduce disaster risks for homeowners, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and communities in order to decrease—

"(A) the loss of life and property;

"(B) the cost of insurance; and

"(C) Federal disaster payments.

"(2) AGREEMENTS.—Any agreement entered into under this section shall require the participating entity to—